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# inside SOCCER

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Why should a ten year-old call me a black bastard?

## DON'T CALL ME NIGGER

FRANCIS Awaritefe is the most exciting striker in Australian soccer and enjoys a reputation as one of the local game's top personalities.

But Awaritefe has taken a swipe at people in the game who don't think that racism is a problem.

It's a big problem he says - but also cites those who ignore it.

"I think that it is up to the authorities in the game to sort it out," he says.

"Why can't the administration take a stand? Then instead of being criticised they would actually be seen in a favourable light. Racism is a problem which rears its ugly head every now and then, and it is a bigger problem with some teams."

This season has been one of those where the word coloured has taken on new meaning - and the gangling Englishman is aware as anybody else that it is his form which has got the taunts going.

"I know that a lot of

people are just trying to put me off my game," he says. OK, so if they say things behind the referee's back then there isn't much anyone can do about it. But when it happens right in front of a referee - like it did when we played Melbourne Knights recently then they have got to do something about it.

"The referee that night said he didn't hear anything - but that is bullshit. He was standing right next to me."

At the time it looked as if Awaritefe was complaining to referee Eddie Lennie about an on the ball incident but the Marconi striker has put the record straight on that one.

Later in the game, and after picking up a yellow card, Awaritefe was substituted by coach Manfred Schaefer. And after the game Awaritefe refused to be consoled by Croatian

**BRUCE CAMPBELL**  
*gives you the stories that  
the others are scared to write*

supporters.

"Look, I've got a lot of really good Croatian friends, that has nothing to do with it," he says.

"Ivan Kelic, Joe Caleta and a lot of the supporters at Melbourne Knights - I count them amongst my friends. But if I said anything about the Croatia-Serbia conflict it would start a riot and I would be kicked out of the game. I would never do that, I would never insult people like that."

"So why should I put up with people calling me nigger or a black bastard? Why should I have ten year-olds calling me a black bastard?"

"It doesn't put me off my game, it's like water off a duck's back as far as football is concerned and it usually works the other way, making me more motivated."

"However, it is racial abuse and it shouldn't happen. A referee has the

power to send someone off for that."

The failure of referee Eddie Lennie to act over the incident, and Soccer Australia's subsequent failure to investigate the incident is a clear indictment that the game is turning a blind eye to a problem which is being tackled head on in other countries and in other football codes in Australia.

The fact that the game's top brass choose to ignore a Soccerroo and one of Australia's senior players saddens Awaritefe, but it clearly isn't the end.

Instead the Players Union is set to mount its own campaign against racial abuse.

Awaritefe doesn't fail to see the irony in the situation either, that people who have been called wogs for years by Australians are now at the centre of this latest episode of racial hatred.



"There is one club in Sydney which is really bad," he says. They are the worst. But if the game's administrators won't do anything then I'll have to push for something to happen through the Players Union."

And with the rest of the Australian soccer press showing its usual timid stance *Inside Soccer* is joining the war against the bigots.

In that campaign we are highlighting the unacceptable performance of

referee Eddie Lennie in the Marconi-Knights match.

If the countries top referee won't take action - and Soccer Australia won't initiate an inquiry then they are both guilty of racial abuse also.

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# War in the States

JUNE 12 is the date set for an amazing meeting of the Victorian Soccer Federation and on the line is the future of federation chairman, Henry Siwka.

And in Canberra ACTSF President Ron Watkins is also fighting for his life with the latest move being a new constitution which would enable the clubs to remove any president.

The turmoil in Victoria has reached dramatic proportions with the sacking of CEO Terry Jones. Amazingly Jones' job was advertised in the national press just hours after his sensational dismissal by Siwka.

Now the administration of the game in the southern state is in chaos with a skeleton staff at soccer house following other staff changes.

*Inside Soccer* attempted to clarify the situation - but it seems that nobody at the beleaguered football HQ is willing to put their neck on the line.

"No comment, we've been told not to talk to you," was the answer when we went calling last week.

It is a similar situation in Canberra where one senior official would only comment; "It's time to cover your back here."

Now New South Wales, which

is set to make an historic tour of China, is looking very much the premier state although both Queensland and South Australia have had periods of consolidation.

It's a far cry from a couple of years ago when the States looked as if they were going to launch their own ambitious State of Origin series.

Now New South Wales is struggling to keep the credibility of soccer at State level alive.

"Nobody knows who is President down there (in Canberra)," said NSWFSF President Peter Gray a few months back.

He was referring to the farcical situation when two people turned up at a State Presidents meeting to represent the ACT.

Now the small state has been dwarfed in its capacity for conflict by Victoria.

"They've dragged the game back here twenty years," said a leading Victorian soccer identity. "We're the laughing stock of the entire state."

Siwka believes that he has the power to remove his CEO - without referral to the board of management members. They obviously disagree and at a recent meeting voted unanimously in a motion of no-confidence. Now it is back to the drawing table and this time Siwka is looking to the support of the clubs who put him into office.

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# Capital raids

by  
Bruce Campbell

THE NEWLY named Gippsland Falcons are gearing up for a plunge into the transfer market - and that could mean a raid on Ericsson Cup new boys, Canberra Cosmos.

Canberra has always been a happy hunting ground for the Latrobe Valley club providing it in the past with Doug Marcina, Carlo Villani and Joe Gaggetti.

But now coach Harry Bingham has his sets set higher - and directly in the firing line are a number of Cosmos players.

"We need to bring new players to the club for next season," says Harry Bingham.

"At this time of the year it's a case of looking around and seeing who is available."

With a number of Cosmos players out of contract it is almost a certainty that the new capital club will be raided by other Ericsson Cup outfits.

"I like the look of a few of the Canberra players," admits Bingham.

"I could use Marko Perinovic in my attack - he is exactly the sort of player I like."

"Perinovic is big and fearless and also great in the air - and he upsets the opposition defence."

"That means there is always space for the other forwards to do damage."

And if Bingham has his way he may well link up Perinovic and his Canberra club-mate, Tony Lemezina.

"I like them both," he says.

"They could do a good job for us."

"I've had early talks and it seems that

both players are keen on coming to Morwell."

Bingham has also listed Canberra's dynamic midfield duo Alex Castro and Michael Musitano on his want list - but he is likely to face stiff opposition from other clubs.

Marconi are favourites to land Castro who has created such an impact in his first Ericsson Cup season.

The young midfielder spent the early part of the national league on the sidelines after sustaining a serious shoulder injury which required surgery but still managed to finish the season with a string of coaches in his bag of admirers.

Now Castro looks ready to profit with a big money move to Marconi.

Unfortunately for Cosmos he is out of contract and they

won't get a penny.

That is ditto for Michael Musitano who could be on his way to South Melbourne.

"I'm still thinking over my options," admitted Musitano last week.

"For now I'm putting transfer talk on the back burner."

That could be a lifeline for Canberra who have already moved to sign a number of their out of contract stars.

*"Now he looks ready to profit with a big money move - unfortunately for Cosmos he is out of contract and they won't get a penny"*



FALCONS MAIN TARGET: big Marko Perinovic



# The big stars are coming

LEADING soccer identities in Australia are behind a project to offer young footballers the opportunity to gain soccer excellence from top rated world stars.

"This is a great opportunity for the kids to learn from their idols," says Perth based Gary Williams.

"Soccer Coaching International has acquired the services of some of the world's top stars to take part in its clinics which commence in July.

"Membership will be on an annual basis and for the first year will be restricted to approximately 6,000 members.

"Each member will receive a membership card which, among other things, will offer them discounts from participating sponsors which include sport shops, fast food outlets, cinemas, loans, banking and travel.

"Members will also receive a regular magazine keeping them up to date on events organised, which stars will be at which clinic plus all of the latest in sponsor discounts.

"And a special soccer scholarship will also be offered to one member per year to attend an all expenses paid trip with one of Britain's top football clubs."

Soccer Coaching International has assembled an impressive list of coaches including overseas and home based Aussies Graham Arnold, Robbie Slater, Mark Bosnich, Robbie Dunn, Shaun Murphy, Doug Hodgson, Stan Lazaridis, Carl Veart and Robbie Zabica as well as top British identities such as Ron Atkinson, Alan Ball, Gordon Banks, Dave Bassett, Paul Beesley, George Best, Ian Bishop, Nathan Blake, Jack Charlton, Tony Cottee, Tony Currie, Wally Downes, Brian Gayle, John Gannon, Steve Harkness, Glyn Hodges, Geoff Hurst, Alan Kelly, Frank Lampard, Matt le Tissier, Mick Lyons, Gary Mabbutt, Rodney Marsh, Ted McMinn, Tony Morley, Stuart Naylor, Charlie Nicholas, Martin Peters, Harry Redknapp, Jamie



Redknapp, Cyril Regis, Les Seeley Gary Shaw, Alan Smith, Rod Wallace, Neil Webb, Norman Whiteside, Frank Worthington and Tony Yeboah.

"We're also giving additional value to our sponsors," adds Williams "by making the stars available to them to help promote their products or attend their facilities.

"Because of the quality of footballer involved I would also envisage that media coverage will be high.

"It's great to see top papers like *Inside Soccer* getting involved with us and we will also be making some big names available at the opening and closing ceremonies of the *City of Bankstown Australia Cup International Youth Tournament*.

"When we had England World Cup hero Geoff Hurst in Australia recently to promote the clinics he received more TV coverage than the rest of soccer put together.

"This is the kind of promotion which will really help to raise the profile of soccer in Australia - and I am sure that it will be a huge success."

PAGE 3 IS  
ALWAYS **Hot**  
in *Inside Soccer*

## BUNNY GIRL CINDY

Well maybe the Olyroos didn't make Canada look like bunnies in the first leg in Edmonton - but they should have!

That's what Cindy reckons, anyway - and she's got her BUNNY GIRL outfit on to prove it. Cindy is a BIG soccer fan and she thinks that the Olyroos are all class.

So who's going to argue with that .....



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# The Magic of Frankie

THIS SEASON soccer in Queensland has come alive – and it is in no way down to the exploits of Frank Farina. Despite that the former Socceroo star is quick to scotch stories that he is expected to perform some kind of magic every week to keep his growing band of supporters happy.

"No, I don't think that that is true," he says. I think it is just the hype which has gone on around Brisbane this year. The game has really taken off in the city of Brisbane and in the state of Queensland in general. I think I'm just looked upon as a player along with the other eighteen

Despite the fact that he took a huge cut in wages to return to Australia, Farina is on a reported \$150,000 which is a huge amount by local soccer standards.

And that doesn't include the thirty thousand or so dollars that he could expect to be generated by his management company, Quarterback. Farina has rewarded Brisbane by some dazzling displays and isn't frightened to have a laugh on the field either.

"I'm used to being a foreigner overseas and extra is always expected of you," he admits. "So I haven't been that worried at Brisbane. Coming home for me was just coming home. If people expect me to be exceptional then that is their prerogative.

They pay their \$10 and I accept that – I don't have a problem with it. It's easier to adjust to the game in Australia because it is a bit slower. Also the players aren't quite as fit because this is a semi professional set-up. I'm quite happy with the way I've adjusted."

And when asked for the biggest difference between the domestic game in the time he has been away Farina can't resist a smile.

"That's easy," he says, "then I was 24 and now I'm 32! There are a lot younger players in the league now. When I left it was very rare to see a seventeen or eighteen year old playing and now you

see three or four in each side.

"The young players are getting a great chance to play in the national league but by the same token you can't expect a seventeen or eighteen year-old to perform at a high level week in and week out. You need to blood youngsters into a team slowly. In Australia we have had so many players leave the country that we are throwing the young kids in."

Mike Komadina



# Heat shock in Perth

SOCCER trainer Gerry van Durren is the latest in a long list of people within the game to aim a blast at Soccer Australia for its decision to allow Perth Glory to play their matches in daytime summer temperatures.

"They have to be aware of the physical factors involved in playing games at this time," he says.

"Last summer the temperature in Perth was generally above thirty degrees and sometimes between thirty nine and forty one degrees.

"I would think that

it is obvious that the games should be planned to kick off even as late as 8.00pm or 9.00pm because of the heat.

"Any earlier would be plainly irresponsible. And what about the temperature in the earlier youth games, has this been considered."

Van Durren has vast experience of sports training in both Holland and Australia and is currently a lecturer at the University of Western Sydney.

His warnings come in the face of the

likelihood that Perth Glory will kick off their main games at 3.00pm – because they don't have adequate flood-lighting installed yet.

"In extreme hot conditions there are three main worries," says van Durren.

"De-hydration is obviously the main worry because it can lead to shock. But fatigue can also set in because of increased fluid, electrolyte and carbohydrate loss.

"Loss of concentration is also a problem – not because of football but because it is the

early symptom of fatigue and heat stroke."

Van Durren says that it is possible that players in Perth next season will lose as much as 7 per cent of body weight because of fluid loss, reducing their capacity to play by 30-40%.

Other than the extreme health risks to Australian players it also poses a huge advantage for Perth Glory, playing under familiar and difficult conditions every home game.

Numerous Ericsson Cup coaches have also decried the

League's decision.

Now the weight of medical opinion is also gathering forcing Soccer Australia to re-examine the situation.

"The worst situation happens when there are losses of 5% of body weight," continued van Durren. "Then heart rates increase to compensate for the fluid loss and to sustain blood supply to all tissues.

"This leads to circulatory collapse – or shock."

Kidney damage is another effect which can result from

## Statement: 'The Man Who Would Be King'

"The Publishers of *Inside Soccer*, and Bruce Campbell (the writer of an article entitled *The Man Who Would Be King* published in Volume 4 Number 5 22 April – 7 May 1996) wish to state that it was not their intention to suggest that Steve Doszpot had in any way manipulated the media as might have been implied in the article. Mr Doszpot denies any such manipulation and both the publishers and the writer accepts that denial. *Inside Soccer* would like to apologise to Steve Doszpot for any embarrassment suffered as a result of the publication of this article.

Further, *Inside Soccer* would like to confirm that, contrary to any mis-understanding which may have been caused by the wording of the article, Steve Doszpot was not a Director of Canberra City Soccer Club at the time of its sale to Canberra City Olympians. *Inside Soccer* has not suggested that Canberra City was sold at an undervalued price nor that there was any financial impropriety involved by any persons involved either at the time or in any time leading up to the sale."



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**"Frank Rijkaard had to be substituted in the World Cup with heat exhaustion – at one stage he didn't even know where he was"**

uncontrolled exertion in hot conditions.

Claims that *Inside Soccer's* campaign to force the governing body to change its mind is alarmist have also been scoffed at by van Durren.

"It is spot on," he says. "There are enormous health risks involved and Soccer Australia should be well aware of the consequences of its action."

If a player is seriously injured because of the effect of excessive heat then SocOz will be liable for the biggest damages claim in the sport's history – but that isn't as terrifying as the possibility of the permanent injury, or even death, of a player due to playing in forty degree temperatures.

"A lot of players are scared that their stomachs will feel full if they start a game with extra water," says van Durren.

Last year van Durren was the invited sports trainer for the replay of the 1974 World Cup final between Holland and West Germany and is clearly an expert in this field.

Despite this, and *Inside Soccer's* sustained campaign, it seems that SocOz is ignoring expert opinion.

Van Durren points to the effects of heat which were clearly visible at the 1994 World Cup when fatigue and loss of concentration were commonplace.

Then games were played in mid thirty degree temperatures to suit television audiences.

Even top professionals couldn't cope with excessive heat and Van Durren is concerned that Australia's part timers will suffer even greater symptoms.

He has also illustrated day time matches in the Eastern states, where temperatures are a lot less than what can be expected in Perth, where vital goals were scored in the dying minutes of games.

"But look at the World Cup and what happened to Frank Rijkaard in the game with Brazil," he says.

"Twenty minutes before the end he had to be taken off."

"It was thirty eight degrees in the shade."

"The Dutch physio said that if Rijkaard hadn't been substituted then he would have collapsed and at one stage in the game he didn't

even know where he was."

And van Durren illustrates that goals are often scored in high temperature games in the last five minutes of each half – likely as a result of lack of concentration and fatigue – both effects of heat exhaustion.

Now Soccer Australia faces a mounting campaign to change its ludicrous decision to stage daytime games in West Australia.

The reason? Perth doesn't have lights.

The outcome? Possible serious injury and certainly heat exhaustion.

John White

# Popovic has the class

SPECULATION is mounting that Sydney United star Tony Popovic could be on his way to Europe – sooner rather than later.

Already Glasgow Rangers has shown an interest and a number of other clubs, including Leeds United, look set to follow up on the availability of the Aussie star.

"Tony has the ability to make it in Europe," says Frank Farina, the Brisbane star who has certainly been there and done that.

"He'd have to adjust to the pace of the game but he can definitely do that."

"Maybe he'd take six months to a year to settle in but he is one of these guys who has a very good attitude."

"He's not a big head, he's not got a big mouth and if you have that attitude in Europe then obviously you can go a long way."

"Tony can also play a bit. I'm not going to say that he will go to Europe and be a great player but he does have the quality and mental toughness to make it."

This season Popovic has been the mainstay of the young Sydney United side, to the extent that when he has been absent they have suffered.

That hasn't gone unnoticed with coach Branko Culina who has been delighted that the big guy has seen the season out.

Despite that, nearly everyone at the west



Rangers or Leeds? It seems a certainty that Tony Popovic won't be in Sydney next season.

Sydney club is resigned to losing their young skipper.

Another player already away from the club is Jimmy Patikas, the big name former Socceroo who had an unhappy time with United.

The problem with Patikas was never made public but he clearly didn't see eye to eye with coach

Branko Culina. Now he will line up in the colours of Olympic – set to prove his old side wrong. But one player who did come good was Robbie Markovac.

"Towards the end of the season he was one of our best players," says Popovic.

"He struggled to fit into the side early on

but he just worked away and it came right for him towards the end. He was defending, supplying balls to the forwards and getting involved in the attack as well."

Markovac returned to Australia at the beginning of this season and quickly linked up with Sydney United.

But he struggled to

adapt to the club's game and at one stage was out of the side. A couple of niggling injuries didn't help his case either but he came back well and his renewed good form is sure to be a bonus to United which is already resigned to losing at least one top player – and maybe as many as four or five.



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## A DROP OF SCOTCH with Bruce Campbell



ONLY RECENTLY I heard myself described as notorious. I didn't wince, I didn't even flinch. What, I suppose, that means in Australian soccerese is that I am somebody who speaks his mind. How sad, that that doesn't apply to all of us. But with speaking your mind goes the responsibility of knowing when to shut up; knowing when to bow to the superior wisdom, experience and knowledge of someone else.

That is learning, that is acquiring knowledge. That, in short, is what life is all about.

I have known John Warren since I was a kid. I marvelled at his playing in the famous red shirts of St George (personally I preferred the all white one with green and red hoops, but that's another story).

As Australian skipper he WAS Australian soccer. His was a presence which was the epitome of the sporting ambassador - he brought nothing but credit to his country.

John could have played overseas - he really was that talented even at a time when Australia was still considered a colonial outpost. Instead, he spent a learning period at Stockport County, even then more intent on developing his knowledge for the good of the Australian game than trying to pursue a career at the top.

Then, as ever since, John Warren was careful to listen to those who had more knowledge than him. Later in life I counted myself lucky to have John listed as a contributor on a national newspaper I was editing.

Naturally, after being asked to edit *Inside Soccer* one of the very first things I tried to do was to secure the services of a man I respect tremendously - as does the majority of the Australian soccer world.

OK, so everyone knows that Johnny Warren MBE has been passed over for a few top jobs at Soccer HQ. That is their loss and I am sure that he can get by in life without them. Some will tell you that you don't have to be a former soccer player to be involved in the administration and promotion of the game. That, like women, religion and whisky, is not a subject I care to debate, it is one of these ones which goes on forever with no real outcome.

I suppose that it is a fact of life that we have soccer administrators and politicians who have never kicked a serious ball in their life. I, in fact, don't mind that and do concede that they can bring tremendous other skills into our game. What I don't like is when they start to tell the soccer experts that they don't know what *they* are talking about. Neither do I like it when they are rude to people whom I respect. I especially don't like it when they choose national TV as a forum for this kind of behaviour.

OK, so back to the notorious bit. Notorious, I don't think so - but I will concede to controversial or outspoken. So here goes once more into the Valley of Death, as they say.

If David Hill wishes to retain the popularity of those who value his chairmanship of Soccer Australia then he should learn some manners. He should also quickly learn that John Warren is a recognised expert on the game and that as such the former Australian skipper's thoughts are not to be sniggered at. Neither should John be used as a debating battering ram because he questions the age of players used in our Olyroo team - after all, he *is* an expert. Especially not on SBS's *On The Ball* which has a national audience.

Instead, David Hill should be seeking out the opinions of people like John Warren on matters which fall outside of his own expertise. If not, he will quickly find himself in the position of some other soccer polies - as an outcast where it matters, in the company of people who know the game.

People who have respect.

TV expert Andy Paschalidis takes a look at Europe

# It's tops in Spain

THE FA CUP was meant to be one of the showpiece games of 1996 but sadly it didn't live up to pre-match expectations.

Manchester United, the recently crowned champions, met Liverpool at a packed Wembley Stadium and with only a handful of minutes left Eric Cantona was United's saviour.

It would be unfair to criticise United.

They took the game to the Reds but Andy Cole failed to deliver.

An early goal would have changed the final right around.

It wasn't to be and the man who is not wanted by the French national coach for the coming European Championships was the hero.

What more can you say about Cantona?

I can understand David Ginola's lack of appearances in the national team since the last World Cup campaign.

Some of you might have seen highlights of France's last Cup qualifier against Bulgaria.

Ginola had the ball near his goal area but elected to stuff around with it and he paid the ultimate price.

Emil Kostadinov pounced and the rest is history.

The French failed in their last two qualifiers at home while Bulgaria went on to reach the semi-finals.

Ginola, it appears, is still suffering the consequences of that fatal mistake but the omission of Cantona deserves special mention.

Sure, he is a

volatile customer.

He has shown that time and time again both on and off the field.

In fact, I can recall at the World Cup in the United States that Cantona made such a scene at the media centre he was almost kicked out of Los Angeles.

The French side has been unbeaten for almost two years now and I can only assume that is the reason why Cantona and Ginola can't force their way back in.

I had a close look during the week at two players keeping them on the sidelines - Dugarry and Zidane.

They both had fairly good games in the UEFA Cup final for Bordeaux against Bayern Munich.

Bordeaux lost the

second leg 3-1 at home after going down 2-0 in Germany.

Dugarry and Zidane looked the part but it was always going to be difficult against such a disciplined defence which was once again marshalled by Lothar Matthaus.

Bordeaux only just survived being relegated this season.

That's what made the Cup run even more amazing.

They had to qualify through the Intertoto Cup in the off-season and by the time they met Bayern in the second leg they had already played 19 games.

Along the way Bordeaux had beaten the likes of Norrkoping, Eintracht Frankfurt, Heerenveen, Karlsruhe, Real Betis and Milan.

Working at Foxsports gives you a much better awareness of what's going on around the world - particularly in Europe.

While the English Premier League has attracted world-wide attention, I'm prepared to say that the Spanish first division is a better quality competition than Italy's *Serie A*.

I know what you might be thinking - that can't be true. But I have followed both leagues for the last 18 months and the major difference is that the Spanish sides are not as defensive minded.

Entertainment is the key and that's what this great game is all about.

Andy Paschalidis is Foxsport's TV soccer expert.

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# JOHN WHITE'S Life's A Ball

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TO YOU BY

*Ram*



FOR ME that was that. The Ericsson Cup Grand Final was just another lousy game in a month of lousy games.

Thank God we're into June - maybe now we can see some ACTION.

After all how could you possibly call that a show-case?

To me it looked like two teams who were frightened to play each other in case they forgot to take along something important, like the ball.

OK, Manfred Schaefer and Ian Dobson both did good jobs with weakened teams, but isn't the game being coached to death?

How often do we see a stalemate and then all of a sudden a surprise goal is scored and then, wham Bma, both teams spark into life.

The FA Cup final was even worse.

That was just pure rubbish.

But how can teams which boast some of the world's finest individual footballers play so poorly?

Surely it is the coaches who must take the can.



KNIGHTS CELEBRATE: but what about the poor fans?

The Scottish Cup final was a real treat and the only decent top game in May.

Even the European trophy games were very dismal.

That's watching them on TV - but imagine how badly you would feel if you paid \$190 for a Wembley ticket - plus the money it takes to get there.

Or what about the poor Marconi fans who paid a week's

wages to watch their side in Melbourne.

It's easy to slag, it's easy to point the finger - but it isn't quite so easy to recommend a solution.

At least not one which coaches would take seriously.

I can't ever see the swashbuckling forward play of yester-year making a return.

Nor can I see any Ericsson Cup side

playing with the luxury of even one winger, never mind two.

Nor could I blame Manfred Schaefer for his tactics after his Marconi preparations had been thrown into total chaos with injury.

Had Francis Awaritefe been there I'm sure we would have seen another Marconi.

That in turn would have forced the

Knights to play differently.

Maybe that's the solution - give the coaches long term contracts which would allow them to play real football instead of just hunting for the trophies which keep them for another season perched on a bench with their blood pressure rising to boiling point.

Don't hold your breath though - life is a bitch.

## In SHORT

SYDNEY UNITED is set to embark on an ambitious overseas tour. Last year there was talk of a trip to Japan, Croatia, Germany and possibly England. That didn't come off - but it looks likely that it will happen with a similar agenda. Nothing official has been released at this stage but the club is looking at a three week tour in July as being a strong possibility.

MARCONI-FAIRFIELD is on the verge of a "major announcement within the next two weeks." That's as close as *In Short* could get when it was sniffing at the Bossley Park HQ of 'Club Tropical'. We have been promised an exclusive, however, - so don't miss out on the next issue of *Inside Soccer*, it should be worth waiting for.

AND ACTION is hotting up in the soccer shirts market - with ASICS expected to formally announce the signing of the Stallions to their popular brand name very shortly. It was even rumoured that the mega company was going to do the deal BEFORE the Grand Final in order to get Matty Bingley (pictured below) in a pair of those white boots. UGH!

Guess who the new soccer marketing boss at Asics is? Former Kilmarnock, Apia and Blacktown striker Lawrie McKinna who has stepped up from his job as a sales rep.

Looks like Lawrie is keen to land a few big name clubs to his stable .....



JOE SENKALSKI has become the latest victim in the coaching merry go round. He has just lost his job as Youth team coach at Newcastle Breakers where Greg Smith (Hamilton warriors) is the hot favourite to be announced as successor.

A NEW NATIONAL RADIO network looks like being up and running in time for next season. Last week ISO MD Cec Bucello received the THIRD enquiry about becoming part of this link up.

"Our pilot match calls on BFM 88.7FM have been very well received this season," he says. "So far we have been asked to provide the New South Wales link for three major chains which are anxious to go national." Looks like it is going to be another busy season .....

RAUL BLANCO has proved that he still has a touch of humour. In an article in the *Adelaide Advertiser* the former West Ad boss was asked to name the highlight of his four seasons at the club. "To survive for four years," was his quick reply.

Blanco was given an award of recognition by the Sharks before officially taking up his appointment as full time Olympic coach.

Not surprisingly, he has also been named as the best West Adelaide coach of all time after taking the club to two play offs and only missing out in the other two seasons by one point each time.

Blanco has also listed the emergence of Tsekenis, Alagich and Tibaldi as the other major achievement of his time in the Shark's hot seat.

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MARSTON MEDAL WINNER Andrew Marth for his best on park performance in Melbourne Knights win over Marconi



# The City of Bankstown AUSTRALIA CUP

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YOUTH TOURNAMENT



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photographs in this illustration do not  
necessarily represent the  
City of Bankstown AUSTRALIA CUP  
International Youth Tournament.



# The 1996 City of Bankstown AUSTRALIA CUP

# 1996 AUSTRALIA CUP

## GENERAL

The *City of Bankstown Australia Cup* is a soccer tournament open to all teams in the boys and girls categories listed below. It is designed to be more than just a number of soccer matches - its aim is to bring together children of the same age from all over the world to participate in a friendly, yet competitive, environment and to act as a cultural exchange that will develop lifelong relationships.

By including a spectacular opening ceremony, followed by a disco, participants and officials will start off in an environment akin to the Olympic Games.

Competition will be within grounds of the same age with winners and runners up in each group playing off against each other to decide quarter and semi finalists and, ultimately, the big final. Play-offs for all lower positions and consolation matches will ensure that all teams are included to the last. All presentations will take place after the final of each age division at Parramatta Eagles Stadium.

With one match scheduled every day, participants will be encouraged to sample the attractions of the host city and its surrounds with discounts arranged at as many venues as possible during the rest of the day.

The aim of the organisers of the Australia Cup is to make the tournament one of the most memorable highlights of a participant's life - one that will be talked about for ages. This type of recommendation will ensure that the Australia Cup will grow each year from strength to strength.

A photographic montage of the event, and details of all team line ups and winners, will also be featured in *Inside Soccer* - Australia's number one soccer publication. This will ensure that the significance of the event, and those participating, is captured for posterity.

## DATES

Sunday 30 June 1996.

Opening Ceremony and entertainment  
Parramatta Eagles Stadium

Monday 1 July - Friday 5 July 1996

Round Robin matches and Quarter Finals where necessary.

Top two teams in each group play off against top two of other group/s in each age division to establish semi finalists.

Saturday 6 July 1996

Semi Finals and play offs for position 5 onwards.

Sunday 7 July 1996

Grand Finals at Parramatta Eagles Stadium.

## AGE GROUPS

Boys categories;

Under 10

Under 11

Under 12

Under 13

Under 14

Under 15

Under 17

Girls Categories;

Under 13

Under 16

## ENTRY FEES

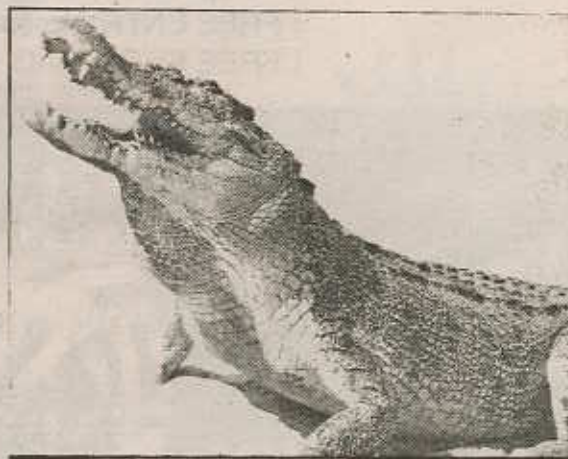
Team entry fee: \$60 per team

Participants (Players only) entry fee: \$40 each

Coaches and officials (maximum 2 per team): no charge

## WHAT THE ENTRANTS RECEIVE

- \* minimum of 5 matches
- \* free entry to, and participation in, a spectacular opening ceremony
- \* Grand Finalists to play in one of Sydney's best football stadiums
- \* major trophy to winning team in each age division
- \* each player, coach and official of an Australia Cup champion age division team receives an individual trophy
- \* each player, coach and official of an Australia Cup runner up age division receives an individual trophy
- \* each member of each group winner and runner up team in each age division not reaching the finals receives a commemorative medal
- \* each member of each team either not winning nor finishing runner up in a group will receive a commemorative certificate
- \* every official match to have an official referee and two linesmen
- \* each participant to receive a souvenir drink bottle
- \* each participant to have free entry to Finals
- \* free entry to Soccer Expo
- \* access to change room facilities provided
- \* use of match balls provided
- \* free entry to an officials function in the form of a Civic Reception by the City of Bankstown, major sponsors of the Australia Cup
- \* discount to official merchandise
- \* discount to all food and drink at all official outlets
- \* free assistance with accommodation
- \* discounted access to Wonderland and other entertainment venues
- \* free copy of *Inside Soccer*
- \* free *SuperStar Soccer* starter pack
- \* free soccer posters and stickers
- \* free entry to disco after the opening ceremony
- \* access to medical facilities also provided





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Sydney based High Five Marketing suppliers of the very popular 750 ml Sports Water Bottle (see advertisement this page) have acquired distribution rights to a range of high quality bomber/college jackets which are now available at the most competitive rates in Australia today.

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All jackets have one internal and two external pockets, are available with either single or double knit collar, wrist and waist bands, and what's more there is no additional charge for embroidery.

Some popular styles include the full wool jacket, wool body leather sleeves, and the very stylish split suede 3/4 length Anorak.

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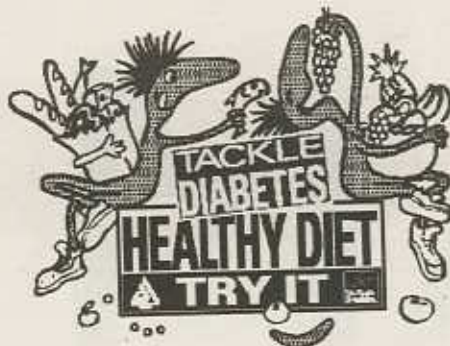


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# 1996 AUSTRALIA CUP

## REGISTRATION FORM The 1996 City of Bankstown AUSTRALIA CUP

Team Name .....

Team Organiser .....

Address .....

.....Post Code .....

Telephone Number (day) ..... (evening) .....

Fax number ..... Mobile .....

Colours (Main Strip);

Shirt .....

Shorts ..... Socks .....

Colours (Alternate Strip);

Shirt .....

Shorts ..... Socks .....

Age Groups Entered; (please circle)

BOYS: Under 10 11 12 13 14 15 17

GIRLS: Under 13 16

This registration form must be accompanied by the team fee of \$60 per team and should be submitted as early as possible to ensure acceptance of entry.

Teams may be existing school or club teams or may be formed especially for 1996 City of Bankstown Australia Cup. Each player must have been under the age entered at the beginning of 1996 and can be up to three years younger.

Each team must have at least 13 players and can have no more than 20 players.

Full payment of \$40 per player must be received by 23 June together with a completed team registration sheet that will be supplied. Proof of age and identification will need to be supplied at the opening ceremony. If required, players will need to organise their own insurance.

If you require assistance with transport and/or accommodation please call Dimarco Brothers Traveland on (02) 602 4900. If you require any further information or general assistance, please call the Tournament Organisers on (02) 686 7020, Fax (02) 639 2169.

"The 1996 City of Bankstown Australia Cup is a wonderful concept. It is the sort of tournament that any aspiring soccer player should participate in. Soccer is as much about comradeship as it is skill. That is why I am delighted to endorse the City of Bankstown Australia Cup - may everybody be a winner."

*Rale Rasic*  
Former Australian National Coach  
and NSL Coach of the Year

### Inside Soccer SOCCER EXPO

A SOCCER EXPO will also form part of the Australia Cup and has the potential of being a major attraction in its own right. Because it will feed off the tournament and will be seen as part of it, with spectators coming both to look at matches and visit the expo, the Inside Soccer Soccer Expo will be in a hall located very near the playing venue.

The Inside Soccer Soccer Expo will provide an opportunity for soccer goods suppliers and retailers to demonstrate their products to a large soccer market. The centre of the hall will be taken up by a soccer related demonstration such as futsal, subbuteo, SuperStar card games, jugglers, coaching sessions, strapping, refereeing and injury prevention demonstrations.

All demonstrators will have free entry to the Inside Soccer Soccer Expo as will all Australia Cup bracelet wearers which includes volunteers and officials. All visitors will receive a free copy of *Inside Soccer* as well as samples from exhibitors.







# RYDGES

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Brilliant on the field as Australia's first big money export Adrian Alston is just as slashing with a pen

# Time to join the club

THINGS SEEM to be looking a lot brighter for soccer on New South Wales' South Coast.

With the Fraternity Club and BHP both firmly backing the Wolves there seems to be a feeling in Wollongong that the club could be heading in the right direction.

There have been changes to the Wolves board - most noticeable being the addition of Jock Morlando, an ex

Wolves player and a man with an excellent business brain.

Jock is currently South Courts national manufacturing manager and he is a great acquisition to the Wolves board.

There aren't many ex-players around with Jock's professional business background and that can only benefit the Wollongong City Wolves.

I would personally still like to see an even greater

commitment from both the Fraternity Club and Wollongong City towards each other.

I truly believe that if the Fraternity Club becomes completely involved with the Wolves they could produce not just a winning team but a progressive winning soccer team of the highest standard.

The Fraternity already sponsors six soccer teams on the South Coast and one can only thank them

for their professional attitude as they are totally committed to soccer in this area.

The Fraternity Club has gone from strength to strength and really is the home of soccer in the Illawarra.


I can just imagine in the near future the Wolves being a permanent part of the Fraternity set-up with the best junior set-up in the national league.

Come on you guys, get together and

## STRIKER

with

*Adrian Alston*





finally do it right for soccer followers on the South Coast.

But time is running out - it needs to be done now.

Let's start the new Ericsson Cup season and let every other club in the national league realise that the Wolves need to be feared and respected - not just

on the field, but with a board of directors who are totally focussed for success for the soccer club.

If some existing board members lose their position then so be it.

As long as it is for the benefit of both the soccer club and the Fraternity Club they should stand down

gladly.

Knowing that they have done something for the future of soccer in the Illawarra will be praised by everyone anyway.

Remember, this is only my opinion - but I don't think that I am far wrong.

See you soon - Noddy.

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## SPOT THE BALL



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# Robbie Slater

West Ham United  
& Australia



THE REWARDS from soccer today are really big.

It wasn't always like that but because it has changed then so has the demands on a player.

Fitness, diet and lifestyle are all very important - and if you want to stay at the top then you have to really look after yourself.

I suppose that a few people who know me well will laugh at that - because with me that hasn't always been the case.

But playing in Europe has really opened up my eyes.

Professional soccer has given me the chance to obtain a lifestyle which is very good.

The financial rewards today are enormous for those who can make it to the very top of the game.

I can never have any complaints about soccer because I love playing and in turn it has been good to me.

I've said this before in *Inside Soccer* but

you are a long time retired so you really do have to make the most out of whatever playing time you have.

Soccer has also allowed me to travel a lot and to meet a lot of very famous people.

It has also given me a chance to play against a few - and maybe none more so than Diego Armando Maradona.

Say what you like about him, but on the field he is all class.

Maradona is very definitely one of the greatest players of all time.

Even when we played against him in those two World Cup qualifying games he still had it and that goal that he set up in Sydney for Batistuta - what can you say, the cross was just brilliant.

When we played the return leg in Argentina he really looked after the Aussie boys, taking us out to a disco and mixing freely with us.

Reading the papers you get a very

different impression of the man.

Obviously he has had his problems but he is still one of the greatest as far as I am concerned and in those games he showed enough to me to suggest that there is also something special in the man as well.

Sometimes the press can distort the truth - but that is another fact of life for a professional footballer.

Without the press we wouldn't be getting the big head lines so I suppose you have to put up with the good and the bad.

I've had a good break from football just now in France.

That is another thing that the game has given me, a chance to see other cultures - and also to meet my wife!

Family life is very important to me and at the end of a hard day at the 'office' it's great to know that there are two happy faces to come home to - no matter



My early days - notice the hair?



Diego Maradona - still a soccer great

whether you have had a good game or a bad game!

There'll be another little Slater running around in August as well - so there is plenty to look forward to with the new season.

It's a long way from my early days with St George but they were good days as well.

I've always enjoyed my football so I have to consider myself really lucky.

Now I'm going into my second season with the hammers and we are all looking

to do well.

Hopefully there will be a chance at Europe and you never know I might actually get a chance to have a crack at Arnie - my partner in crime from the old days at Sydney United.

I'm looking forward to some of my fans dropping me a line through *Inside Soccer* and I'll see if I can get the editor to drum up a soccer ball for a prize each issue also.

See you soon - Robbie Slater.

## WHY NOT DROP ROBBIE A LINE?

*Inside Soccer* will include a special Robbie Replies section in soccer's top column - from next issue. We'll also give away fabulous soccer pressies for the best letters.

THE ROBBIE SLATER PAGE  
IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

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# WHAT A JOKE



It's all smiles at the Awards Night - but where is Manfred Schaefer?

THE GLITTER on what should have been a fabulous night for Australian soccer has been reduced to a joke - with the farcical by-passing of Marconi's Manfred Schaefer for Coach of the Year.

"It is obvious what has happened," said one Ericsson Cup club coach.

"Schaefer is a victim of jealousy within the ranks of his fellow coaches.

"After all, it is they who vote for the award - no-one else.

"They should all go away and hang their heads in shame.

"People were

questioning the award at the presentation night but really, how can they be so two faced?

"They were the ones who didn't vote for Manfred - and now some of them have the cheek to ask why he didn't get it."

For the record, Schaefer came second in a poll amongst his fellow coaches with the top vote going to Adelaide City's John Perin - despite the fact that Schaefer's Marconi ripped Adelaide City apart in the Preliminary Final.

It would seem that Schaefer has been the victim of petty jealousy amongst his fellow coaches.

No other explanation could fit after Schaefer has turned Marconi around from a tenth place bunch of no-hopers into the 1996 League Premiers.

"Last year they had Andrea Icardi - and he played for AC Milan," said Schaefer's supporter. "He has proven that he is better than someone who has played at the very top in the world game.

"But the awards are a disgrace, they aren't worth getting dressed up for and until the system is changed I won't be going back."

Soccer Australia has turned the night into a glittering and prestigious black tie affair but it is in danger of being ruined from within the game. This latest attack on the presentation comes after a string of claims that the awards night was being taken over by the game's hangers-on.

Maybe with this fresh controversy the game's ruling body will do what they should have done from the beginning - and appoint an independent panel to select the nominees and recipients.

Schaefer wasn't available for comment as *Inside Soccer* went to print but Marconi supporters are seething over the fact that the man who has turned their club around missed out on a single Coach of the Month award and now has had the ultimate slap in the face.

Bruce Campbell



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GROUP A	win	win group
England	52-10	13-10
Switzerland	50-1	9-1
Holland	6-1	10-11
Scotland	50-1	9-1
GROUP B	win	win group
Spain	7-1	16-10
Bulgaria	25-1	43-10
Romania	20-1	43-10
France	10-1	17-10
GROUP C	win	win group
Germany	4-1	11-10
Czechoslovakia	50-1	17-1
Italy	45-10	14-10
Russia	16-1	42-10
GROUP D	win	win group
Denmark	33-1	37-10
Portugal	10-1	15-10
Turkey	80-1	16-1
Croatia	10-1	13-10

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#### ROUND ONE MATCHES

	draw	
June 8th		
England	10-18	21-10 5-1 Switzerland
June 9th		
Spain	10-12	23-10 25-10 Bulgaria
June 10th		
Germany	1-2	25-10 45-10 Czech
Denmark	22-10	23-10 10-11 Portugal
June 11th		
Holland	10-22	25-10 6-1 Scotland
Romania	25-10	22-10 10-12 France
June 12th		
Italy	10-12	21-10 28-10 Russia
Turkey	5-1	28-10 10-23 Croatia

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# Champions eye goal ace

THE TARGETING of Blackburn Rovers hit man, Alan Shearer, is a sure sign that Manchester United are set to become the best team in England since the great Liverpool side of the 80s – and maybe the best of all time.

United manager Alex Ferguson is an open admirer of England striker Shearer and sources close to Old Trafford indicate that he will make an official approach as soon as England's Euro Championship campaign is over.

Last season Shearer topped the Premier League goal scoring charts and Ferguson clearly sees him as the front man in United's European Championship spearhead.

But to get his man he will have to set a new British record and already Shearer is being talked about as the first £12 million player.

Cash won't be a problem for the Old Trafford club either – especially after

## All the BIG Euro stories in Soccer World

having let go Ince, Hughes and Kanchelskis at the beginning of last season.

Should Alan Shearer become a United player then it is sure to mean the end for Andy Cole, the big money buy from Newcastle who has failed to set the earth on fire since moving to the north west.

Already Everton and Newcastle have shown interest in the coloured striker – but at a knock down £5 million – £2 million less than he cost when United bought him from Newcastle.

Cole has already had talks with Everton boss Joe Royle and a Merseyside move could well be to his liking.

That would pave the way for Shearer who is reported to be

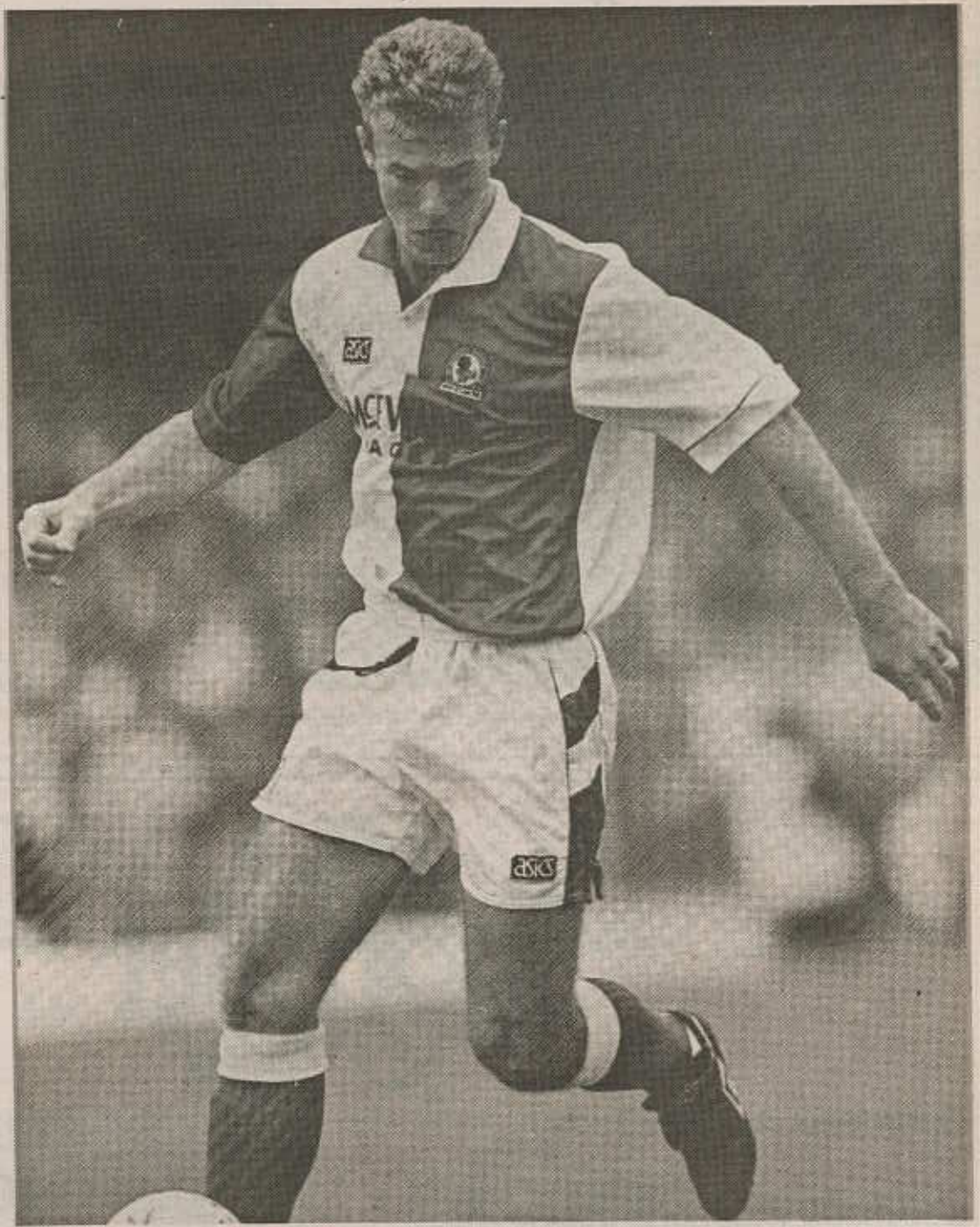
after a massive £20,000 a week.

Ironically Manchester United could have signed Shearer four years ago when he switched to Blackburn from Southampton.

But at the time the Old Trafford club wouldn't match the £8,000 a week wages he was offered by Blackburn then.

Now with the benefit of the £11million in the bank from the transfer of his three stars last summer – and the revenue created by winning the double United boss Alex Ferguson is ready to move in for his man.

To do that he will have to more than double the wages asked for four years ago – and smash the British transfer record into the bargain.



## FA Cup shame to spur FA

THE BEST club tournament in the world was rocked by two disgraceful incidents involving fans – incidents which were screened around the world to millions of TV viewers.

And the English FA is set to move in quickly to stop TV style copycat incidents blotting the game's show-case events.

"We are considering options to control the crowd at the Cup final," confirmed an FA spokesperson after Eric Cantona was SPAT on and United boss Alex Ferguson was assaulted by a

fan who tried to PUNCH him.

"The main options would be installing a perspex cover around the steps to the presentation box, or making the seats in that area family seats, or to replace fans' seats with stewards' seats.

Manchester United star Eric Cantona was spat on as he led his victorious side up to the presentation box – and millions of TV viewers around the world looked on in amazement as the wayward Frenchman wiped the spit

from his head.

Cantona was applauded for his calm under provocation – a far cry from the scenes of a year ago when he launched into a Kung Fu style attack on a spectator for much less provocation.

This time he was the darling of the FA and instead paused only slightly on his way up the steps to the Royal box to wipe his head.

But the Football Association, faced with its first staging of the European Championships, is determined to ensure that English fans don't drag the name of the game down.

## Vialli for Stamford Bridge

## Chelsea go continental

CHELSEA HAVE revealed the reason why Juventus star Gianluca Vialli has been linked with the London club.

"There are two reasons," said a club insider.

"One is his friendship with Ruud Gullit who has taken over the manager's job from Glenn Hoddle.

"The other is even simpler, £27,000 a

week!"

With a European Cup medal in his pocket the shaven headed star is looking for new challenges and after turning down Glasgow Rangers the pundits are confident that he WILL link up with Gullit at Chelsea – despite statements from Juventus saying that Vialli will re-sign.

A three year deal is reportedly on the table from Chelsea – and a staggering £4.2 million as a sweetener.

"Ruud and Gianluca are good friends," says Chelsea CEO Colin Hutchinson. "But whatever happens we'll be pursuing a more continental approach – and that is good news for our fans."



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# Razor fights for place

THE HARD man they call 'Razor' at Anfield could well be on his way from the club he loves.

The axing of Neil Ruddock from the Liverpool first team on the eve of their Cup Final against Manchester United has maybe signalled the end for him – even although the player is determined to fight for his place.

"Telling Neil that he was out of the side at Wembley was the hardest thing I have ever had to do," confessed Liverpool manager Roy Evans.

"How do you tell somebody that they are dropped from a Cup final?"

"There is no nice way."

"It was a really hard decision to make but

telling him was even harder.

"You know that you are breaking a player's heart."

"But in the end I picked what I thought was the best team for the day."

"I feel for the players who weren't included."

But in the end the pace and mobility of Phill Babb meant that there was no pace for

the hard man central defender.

When the news was broken to Ruddock at Liverpool's pre-Cup training HQ at St Albans he was a gutted figure.

But now there is a posse of clubs joining the queue for his services should he join the summer transfer roundabout –

including Glasgow Rangers, Tottenham, Leeds United and Chelsea.

And even though Leeds have made a new home for Ruddock's team mate Ian Rush he has vowed to fight for his place at Anfield.

"I'm not leaving here unless I am told to go," Ruddock has defiantly said.

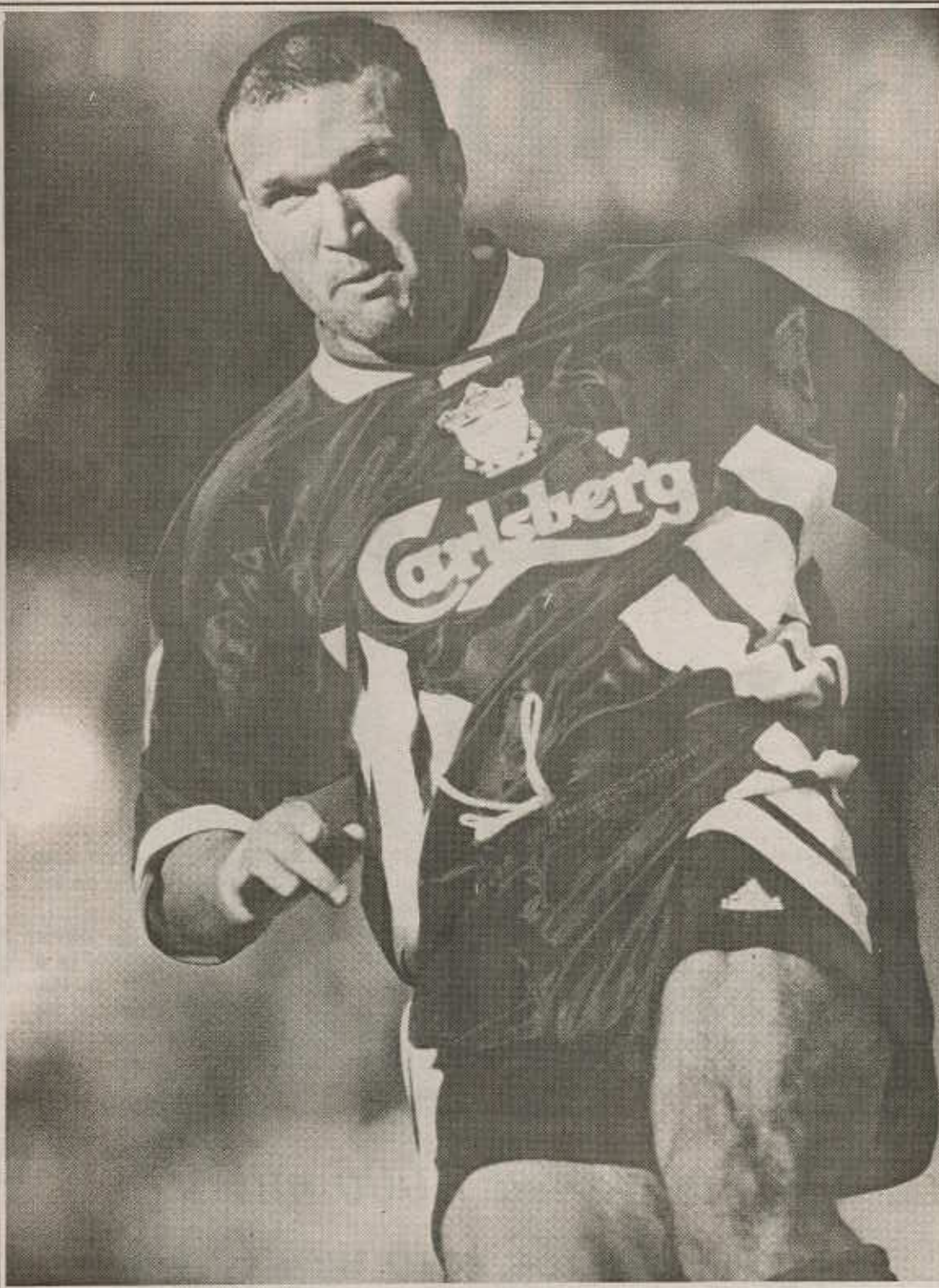
"I want to show the

gaffer that he has made a big mistake – but if he doesn't want me then I will have to go."

"I'm ambitious enough to still want to win things – but I want to do that at Liverpool."

Now the 28 year-old former Tottenham player is set for one of the hardest weeks of his own career –

as he works on staying at Anfield or moving on to his fifth club – and maybe his THIRD spell at Tottenham.



ALEX FERGUSON is rightly basking in the reflection of the glories created by winning his second double with Manchester United – but he still isn't the greatest, according to all time United legend Georgie Best.

"What Alex has done is fantastic," said Best.

"And he is up there with the greats of the game."

"That includes all the big names in management like Bill Shankly, Bob Paisley, Bill Nicholson and Jock Stein."

"But he isn't better than Sir Matt."

"To take Matt's place as the greatest boss of all he has to win the European Cup first."

Matt Busby, the softly spoken former

## Ferguson isn't the best – YET



miner from Lanarkshire walked out of the carnage of the Munich Air Disaster in 1958 to build another great side, a side which included George Best (pictured) along with Bobby Charlton

and Denis Law.

The climax to Busby's career was United's European Cup success in 1968 with Best at his dazzling height.

"Alex Ferguson is a good manager," added Best.

"He also has that ruthless streak which Matt had."

"Both went for what they wanted but I am sure that Alex won't feel that he has achieved all that he can."

"Until he gets his hands on the European Cup he won't be satisfied."

"There is more talent knocking his door and the conveyor belt of talent at Old Trafford could dominate the game for the next ten years."

## Dorothy gets ready to drive the nobodies to Euro glory

THE NOBODIES of Welsh Football are gearing up to take on the big boys next season – in the European Cup Winners' Cup.

And the little Welsh village of Llansantffraid-ym-mechain can't wait to get at them.

The tiny village with the almost unpronounceable name, and a population of just 954, has put itself on the Euro map through the Welsh Cup.

And chairman's wife Dorothy Jones is delighted.

"It's the biggest thing to happen here since a ram hung itself in the goal net," she laughed.

Dorothy doubles up with multiple jobs for the Welsh League club – including cleaner, cook and team bus driver.

But she is set for her own reward when the team of part

timers has its first taste of Euro big time.

"The players just do it for pocket money," says manager Graham Breeze.

"None of them have ever played Football League – at any level, but they all got a £20 bonus for reaching the Welsh Cup final."

"We don't care who we play in Europe – as long as we don't get an Eastern bloc side."

"That could cripple us financially."

"But it's a dream come true."

That's where the dreams are likely to stop though and the club, which has an average gate of 'about 100', will even have to play its home games 'away' – in Wrexham because of safety regulations.



# Dive Bomber makes Germany favourites



OUTSPOKEN Welsh international and Wimbledon hardman Vinnie Jones has slammed England's Euro preparations - and come out in support of the Germans.

have been booking Asian tours the Germans have prepared with their typical, admirable efficiency," says Jones. "It beggars belief that England travelled 7,000 miles

wouldn't get into my local pub team. Terry Venables should have wrapped his players in cotton wool after a punishing season.

"They should have trained behind closed doors from Monday

to Friday - and then allowed home on the weekend."

But Jones, never short of a word or a crunching tackle, also singled out the man the fans call the

'Dive

Bomber' as one of the German trump cards - even although he has slated him for leaving English football.

"I think that Klinsmann betrayed Tottenham," says Jones. "His two year deal was ripped up quicker than the time

it takes to say 'sorry that sunbed is taken'.

"He picked up his Footballer of the Year award and then headed back to a £4 million fortune with Bayern Munich. But love him or hate him the blond bomber will lead Germany on a raid that will again shake soccer.

"I see the Germans starting in first gear, slipping into second, switching to chubbo charge and then driving all over Wembley."

Jones doesn't rate England's chances highly at all, saying that they will only reach the final if others slip up or falter. Ahead of the home side he rates Bulgaria, Italy, Holland and even Switzerland.

England look to have an easy chance to make the next stage - but might find that the Tartan Army of Scotland is their undoing.

That would be against all odds

because the draw is stacked very nicely in England's favour.

Should they win Group A, and with all group matches at Wembley they must be fancied, England will then play their quarter final at Wembley.

After that the draw would take them on to a semi at - that's right, Wembley.

And, quite rightly, the final is also set for the national stadium.

That was the same route which led to England's sole World Cup victory in 1966.

Then they played Germany in the final but this time Vinnie Jones, at least, thinks that the class of Klinsmann & Co, plus superior preparation, will prove the difference.

Another factor could well be the Scots - who history recalls was the first side to beat England after they won the World Cup.

Derek Smith

*" They travelled 7,000 miles to play blokes who wouldn't get into my pub team "*

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## INTERNATIONALS

### OLYMPIC QUALIFIER

Sunday 2 June

AUSTRALIA ..... 5 CANADA ..... 0

Sunday 26 May

CANADA ..... 2 AUSTRALIA ..... 2  
Lozanovski  
Spiteri

\* Australia qualify for Olympic finals 7-2 on aggregate

## ERICSSON CUP

Sunday 26th May

MEL KNIGHTS ..... 2 MARCONI FAIRFIELD .. 1  
Marth 58 Harper 80

A Cervinski 75

ATT: 14,258

Ref: E Lennie

Venue: Olympic Park, Melbourne

Wednesday 15th May

ADELAIDE CITY ..... 1 SYDNEY UNITED ..... 0  
Armour 44th

Att: 6,250 (unofficial crowd)

Ref: B Hugo

Sunday 12th May

UTS OLYMPIC ..... 0 ADELAIDE CITY ..... 1  
Mennillo 70

Att: 9,015 (unofficial crowd)

Ref: E Brazzale

Saturday 11th May

BRISBANE STRIKERS .... 1 SYDNEY UNITED ..... 2

Farina 44

Att: 8,727

Ref: B Hugo

Lamond 83

Moric 87

MARCONI FAIRFIELD ..... 2

Hristodoulou 50

Maloney 62

Att: 8,317

Ref: E Lennie

MELB KNIGHTS ..... 2

T Pondeljak 22

D Cervinski 35

Sunday 5th May

MELB KNIGHTS ..... 1 MARCONI-FAIRFIELD .. 0

A Cervinski 61

Att: 4,644

Ref: S Micallef

SYDNEY UNITED ..... 2 BRISBANE STRIKERS .. 0

Zdrilic 14

Moric 59

Att: 2,848

Ref: E Brazzale

## CLUB CHALLENGE

Friday 31st May

PERTH GLORY ..... 0 SAMPDORIA ..... 3

### GROUP A (Wembley\*, Villa Park#) England, Holland, Scotland, Switzerland

June 8 England v Switzerland\*

June 10 Scotland v Holland#

June 13 Switzerland v Holland#

June 15 Scotland v England\*

June 18 Scotland v Switzerland#

Holland v England\*

### GROUP B (Elland Road\*, St James Park#) Bulgari, France, Romania, Spain

June 9 Spain v Bulgaria\*

June 10 Romania v France#

June 13 Bulgaria v Romania#

June 15 France v Spain\*

June 18 France v Bulgaria#

Romania v Spain\*

### GROUP C (Anfield\*, Old Trafford#) Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Russia

June 9 Czech v Germany#

June 11 Italy v Russia\*

June 14 Czech v Italy\*

June 16 Russia v Germany#

June 19 Russia v Czech\*

Italy v Germany#

### GROUP D (Hillsborough\*, City Ground#) Croatia, Denmark, Portugal, Turkey

June 9 Denmark v Portugal \*

June 11 Turkey v Croatia#

June 14 Portugal v Turkey#

June 16 Croatia v Denmark\*

June 19 Croatia v Portugal#

Turkey v Denmark\*

### QUARTER FINALS

Saturday June 22

M1. 1st Group A v 2nd Group B

M2. 1st Group B v 2nd Group A

Wembley (3.00pm)

Anfield (6.30pm)

Sunday June 23

M3. 1st Group C v 2nd Group D

M4. 1st Group D v 2nd Group C

Old Trafford (3.00pm)

Villa Park (6.30pm)

### SEMI FINALS

Wednesday June 26

Winner M2. v Winner M4.

Winner M1. v Winner M3.

Elland Road (4.00pm)

Wembley (7.30pm)

### FINAL

Sunday June 30

Wembley (7.00pm)

## Scores & Tables

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